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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
APPLICANT: Christian M. Heesch      DATE: July 20, 2004  
SERIAL NO.: 09/973,675      GROUP ART UNIT: 3712  
FILED: 10/09/2001      EXAMINER: ACKUN, Jacob K.  
FOR: "PROTECTIVE CASE FOR STRING INSTRUMENTS"  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A00153US (98236.5)

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**OFFICIAL**

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2004. A shortened statutory period was set to expire three months from the date of the Office Action, making a response due by April 20, 2004. Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response for three months from April 20, 2004 to July 20, 2004.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows (additions are underlined and deletions are shown in strikout):